

(a) whether it is a fact that even after nearly half a century since the country became independent, there still exists certain areas where poverty and starvation are still prevailing amongst tribals and other backward people such as in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether Government have identified such pockets and areas and the people afflicted with object poverty and starvation, if so, the details of the areas in Orissa and other States so identified; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ameliorate the living conditions of these people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The planning and development of an area within a State and allocation of resources for its development is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Government of India have been helping the States in alleviation of poverty through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes like IRDP, JRY, EAS, NRY as well as development programmes like DPAP, DDP, HADP, ITDP etc. The Government also proposes to strengthen the Minimum Needs Programme by making special allocations to the States to improve the quality of life of the people. As regards backward areas of Orissa, a long term action plan has been approved for 8 districts namely, Koraput, Rayagada, Naurangpur, Malgangiri, Kalahandi, Naupada, Bolangir and Sonepur with the objective of mitigating the extreme poverty in these districts.

Off-Shore Project

5271. SHRI JAYANTA BHATTACHARYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of Off-Shore Project at Jellingham, District Midnapore, West Bengal;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure the placement of order from O.N.G.C. to this Unit; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the smooth running of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Jobs to Kashmiri Youths

5272. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is considering the proposal to provide jobs to Kashmiri Youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the migrant youths of the State would also be provided jobs as per proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) State Government has been implementing a large number of schemes with a view to provide Self Employment ventures for the educated/uneducated youth of the State.

The State Government through the Plan mechanism provides employment opportunities for about 5000 people in Government sector. For uneducated unemployed youth, the schemes under implementation are Integrated Rural Development Schemes, other employment generation programmes like JRY/EAS. It is proposed to create 192 lakh mandays during the current year under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. The State Government is also implementing PMRY scheme under which 3100 units are to be covered during the current year.

2. A massive programme for employment for educated youth at a total of Rs. 66 crores envisaging direct and indirect employment for about 52000 persons has also been formulated by the State Government. Under this scheme an outlay for the current year is Rs. 16 lakhs and 6200 units are proposed to be established to give employment to 12000 youth.

3. The migrant youth of the State are also eligible for these schemes.

Hydel Projects

5273. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether small hydel projects have been set up in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the total energy generated during the last three years, Project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) 183 small hydel power projects, upto 3 MW station, capacity, with an aggregate capacity of about 129 MW, have so far been set up in